

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4081
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4002
FAX (916) 323-6958

California State Senate

SENATOR
PATRICIA WIGGINS
SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



November 18, 2008

STANDING COMMITTEES:
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CHAIR
BANKING, FINANCE &
INSURANCE
ENERGY, UTILITIES &
COMMUNICATIONS

SELECT COMMITTEES:
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY,
CHAIR

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I would like to express my support for the riparian restoration project submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy by the Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership. The project, entitled "*Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration*," reflects the ongoing collaborative work of the Partnership, bringing together public and private partners to address watershed and landscape scale conservation challenges. Through a five year effort, this project will bring us closer to eradicating tamarisk and pepper weed through much of the watershed and will also establish an important model for habitat restoration and long-term management and assessment.

The BRBNA Partnership has been an influential force for cooperative conservation for over 10 years, helping to create an identity for the region, and promoting the protection of its high biodiversity values, its productive ranchlands and recreation opportunities. This approach to our most pressing conservation issues is in line with the State Resources Agency and my office.

The Eticuera project is intended to address invasive species on a large scale across ownership boundaries, enhancing the efforts of the Department of Fish and Game in the Knoxville Wildlife Area and including key adjacent lands of the U.C. Natural Reserve System, Bureau of Land Management and a private landowner.

I encourage approval of this worthy project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Wiggins".

PATRICIA WIGGINS
Senator 2nd District

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JAN 13 2009
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

VALLEJO DISTRICT OFFICE
444 GEORGIA STREET
VALLEJO, CA 94590
TEL (707) 648-5312
FAX (707) 648-5383

NAPA DISTRICT OFFICE
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205
NAPA, CA 94559
TEL (707) 224-1990
FAX (707) 224-1992

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT OFFICE
50 D STREET, SUITE 120A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
TEL (707) 576-2771
FAX (707) 576-2773

UKIAH DISTRICT OFFICE
P.O. BOX 785
UKIAH, CA 95482
TEL (707) 468-8914
FAX (707) 468-8931

EUREKA DISTRICT OFFICE
710 E STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
TEL (707) 445-6508
FAX (707) 445-6511



COMMITTEES
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS, CHAIR
BUDGET
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY & TOXIC
MATERIALS
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEES
BUDGET #3: NATURAL RESOURCES

SELECT COMMITTEES
CALIFORNIA WINE, CHAIR
FOSTER CARE

Assembly California Legislature



NOREEN EVANS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTH DISTRICT

January 5, 2009

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0007
(916) 319-2007
FAX (916) 319-2107

SANTA ROSA
50 "D" STREET, SUITE 301
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 546-4500
FAX (707) 546-9031

VALLEJO
1713 SONOMA BOULEVARD
VALLEJO, CA 94590
(707) 649-2307
FAX (707) 649-2311

NAPA
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205
NAPA, CA 94559-2605
(707) 258-8007
FAX (707) 258-8205

EMAIL: assemblymember.evans@assembly.ca.gov
Website: democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a07

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

I write in support of the \$118,000 proposal submitted by the Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership to conduct invasive plant control and habitat restoration in the Eticuera Creek watershed.

Noxious weed control is a resoundingly universal concern for public land managers and private landowners. Through a five year effort, this project will bring us closer to eradicating tamarisk and pepperweed through much of the Eticuera Creek watershed.

This project reflects the ongoing collaborative work of the Partnership which brings together public and private partners to address watershed and landscape conservation challenges. This project will operate across land ownership boundaries, enhancing the efforts of the Department of Fish and Game in the Knoxville Wildlife Area and including key adjacent lands of the U.C. Natural Reserve System, Bureau of Land Management, and a private ranch.

The Partnership has been an influential force for cooperative conservation for over 10 years, helping to create an identity for the region and promoting the protection of its high biodiversity values, productive ranchlands, and recreation opportunities. I urge your support of its proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Yours very truly,

NOREEN EVANS
Assemblymember, 7th District

NE:am

cc: Suzanne Easton, Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Rea Conservation Partnership

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

United States Department of the Interior



Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Field Office
2550 N. State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
www.ca.blm.gov/ukiah
Office: (707) 468-4000 Fax: (707) 468-4027



IN REPLY REFER TO:

January 9, 2009

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is in full support of this BRBNA Conservation Partnership's cooperative project to control invasive plants and restore habitat within the Eticurea Creek watershed. BLM's Ukiah field Office has identified tamarisk eradication on its administered lands within this same area as a priority and welcomes the assistance in assessing the extent and location of invasive species in the watershed. We have worked closely with the staff at the McLaughlin Reserve and have the utmost confidence in their expertise and ability to carry out the mapping, assessment and implementation of this project where BLM lands are concerned.

BLM has been an active member of the BRBNA Partnership for over 12 years. As shown on past projects through this partnership, private and public entities working together toward the same goal far exceeds the capabilities of any individual effort. Through our combined forces, we see the possibility of restoring a damaged watershed back to its natural condition and supporting native vegetation in the not-to-distant future.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of the Partnership's grant proposal. Your help will go a long way. If you have any questions regarding our support and involvement with this project and/or the BRBNA, feel free to contact me at the above address or telephone number.

Sincerely,

Rich Burns
Field Manager, Ukiah

Cc: Betsy Wilson, Coastal Conservancy
Suzanne Easton, BRBNA

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JAN 20 2009

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

State of California
Department of Fish and Game



Memorandum

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JAN 23 2009

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Date: January 22, 2009

To: Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

From: Charles Armor, Regional Manager, Department of Fish and Game, Bay Delta Region,
Post Office Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599

Subject: Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration, Napa County

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) recommends that the California State Coastal Conservancy support the funding application titled *Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration* submitted by the Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area (BRBNA) Conservation Partnership. The Bay Delta Region has been working closely with the Eticuera Creek Stewardship Committee, created by the BRBNA Partnership, to address invasive weed problems and restoration needs in the watershed. The Committee consists of public land managers (DFG, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.C. McLaughlin Reserve, and U.C. Cooperative Extension) in the region as well as non-profit organizations and private landowners. For over two years, the group has been developing a cooperative stewardship project that will complement existing efforts and provide an ongoing vehicle for eradicating invasive plants and restoring significant wildlife habitat and rangeland. DFG has been an active participant in formulating the proposal and will continue to play a central role in the oversight of the project on the Knoxville Wildlife Area lands. We support the proposal submitted by the Partnership in its efforts to bring the key agencies and landowners in the region together to establish a long-term effort for watershed restoration.

DFG has removed a major infestation of tamarisk (*Tamarix parviflora*) along the main stem of Eticuera Creek and its tributaries with past funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board. This project will complement this past work in the region by strategically controlling perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*) and also addressing post-removal riparian restoration needs. In addition, it will allow DFG to work closely with adjacent landowners and public managers to address problems on a watershed scale. We look forward to the cooperation and support offered by the efforts of this group.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Stacy Martinelli, Associate Wildlife Biologist, at (707) 944-5537; or Laurie Briden, Senior Wildlife Biologist, at (209) 948-7347. Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Betsy Wilson, California State Coastal Conservancy
Suzanne Easton, BRBNA

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Napa Field Office
1303 Jefferson St. Suite 500B
Napa, CA 94559

phillip.blake@ca.usda.gov

PHONE: (707) 252-4189x101
FAX: (707) 252-4219

January 9, 2009
Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to encourage the Coastal Conservancy Board to provide funding support for the riparian restoration project proposal submitted by the Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership. The project, entitled "Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration," reflects the ongoing collaborative work of the Partnership, bringing together public and private partners to address watershed and landscape scale conservation challenges.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is an active partner in this stewardship effort, along with the BRBNA, BLM, Audubon California, the Department of Fish and Game, UC Natural Reserve System, and U.C. Cooperative Extension Service. The NRCS has a strong interest and commitment to strengthen partnerships not only with cooperating organizations but also with private landowners who graze considerable acreage in the Eticuera watershed. We have been working for several years in a successful partnership with U.C. Cooperative Extension to reach out to private ranching interests and engage them in important research and implementation of weed control strategies in everyday grazing management. We are encouraged that the Gamble Ranch will be part of this project. NRCS has worked with the family for many years and can attest to their commitment to land stewardship.

Traditionally, it can be challenging to attempt to combine the interests of private and public landowners and land managers, but noxious weed control is a resoundingly universal concern that unites both groups. The Eticuera project is intended to address invasive species on a large scale across ownership boundaries, enhancing the efforts of the Department of Fish and Game in the Knoxville Wildlife Area and including key adjacent lands of the U.C. reserve system and Gamble family.

We will continue to provide in-kind contribution of expertise through our participation in oversight and management of the project.

Please let me know if you have any questions. We encourage approval of this worthy project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phillip Blake".

Phillip Blake
District Conservationist

Cc: Suzanne Easton, BRBNA
✓ Betsy Wilson, Coastal Conservancy

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



McLaughlin Mine Closure Project
26775 Morgan Valley Road
Lower Lake, CA 95457
(707) 995-6072

January 12, 2009

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration

Dear Mr. Bosco:

We would like to express our support for the riparian restoration project submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy by the BRBNA Conservation Partnership. The project, entitled "Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration," reflects the ongoing collaborative work of the Partnership, bringing together public and private partners to address watershed and landscape scale conservation challenges. Homestake Mining Company of California is a founding member of the Partnership.

Homestake holds title to some of the property that will be restored as part of this project. However, as part of a perpetual agreement with the U.C. Natural Reserve System, U.C. has been granted management authority over these lands, which now comprise a portion of the McLaughlin Reserve. They have clear rights to conduct these activities in the areas designated in the proposal, with the exception of areas directly impacted by historic mining (mine workings and tailings). Homestake will work with the Partnership to ensure that any weed eradication and riparian restoration work in the vicinity of historic mine workings will be compatible with any future mine reclamation activities that Homestake may conduct.

While not confirmed to date by our governing body, we hope to provide both financial support to this project and in-kind contributions of equipment and labor.

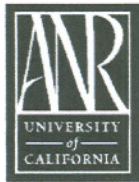
Please let me know if you have any questions. We encourage approval of this worthy project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Burke', written in a cursive style.

Karl Burke
Closure Manager--McLaughlin Mine
26775 Morgan Valley Rd.
Lower Lake, CA 95457
707-995-6072

Cc: Betsy Wilson, Coastal Conservancy
Suzanne Easton, BRBNA



UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA
Agriculture & Natural Resources



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION • SOLANO COUNTY
501 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533 Tel. (707) 784-1317 Fax (707) 429-5532

January 22, 2009

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Douglas Bosco:

I would like to express my support for the riparian restoration project submitted to the Coastal Conservancy by the BRBNA Conservation Partnership. The project, entitled "Eticuera Creek Watershed Invasive Plant Control and Habitat Restoration," reflects the ongoing collaborative work of the Partnership, bringing together public and private partners to address watershed and landscape scale conservation challenges. Through a five year effort, this project will get us close to eradicating tamarisk and pepperweed through much of the watershed and will also establish an important model for habitat restoration and long-term management and assessment.

I have collaborated with the Partnership for several years in prioritizing natural resource issues and in developing the scope of activities to pursue with grant funding. The Eticuera Creek watershed is an extremely rural and uninhabited area of Napa County with spectacular topography and natural beauty. Unfortunately a lack of vegetation management on the public lands within the watershed has increased the risk of wildland fires and noxious weed infestations throughout the entire watershed, including private ranches adjacent to the public lands.

There is a great amount of interest among all the private and public interests within the Partnership to implement a vegetation management and restoration plan. We have identified an urgent need to initially focus efforts on the riparian corridors where we have opportunities to eradicate key invasive weeds before their populations are uncontrollable. Over the long-term we will include upland area restoration and management plans with the intent to increase native plant and animal diversity and reduce the risk of wildland fires and weed infestation.

I hope that you and the Coastal Conservancy Board appreciate the positive impact that our project can have within and beyond the Eticuera Creek watershed and fully fund the proposal.

Sincerely,

Morgan Doran

Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor for Napa, Solano and Yolo Counties

cc: Betsy Wilson, Coastal Conservancy
Suzanne Easton, BRBNA

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OAKLAND, CALIF.



University of California and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating